

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 015794

TOVIP 04 FOR HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 0525 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS
NICOSIA PARIS LONDON EC BRUSSELS 24 JAN 77.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0525

DEPT PLS PASS HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, US, CY

SUBJECT: US/TURKISH DCA AND CYPRUS

REF: ANKARA 0459, ANKARA 0498

1. IN BRIEF SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS I HAD TODAY (MONDAY,
JAN 24) WITH FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL AND MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG.
I FOUND THEM BOTH MUCH MORE RELAXED CONCERNING THE NEW
ADMINISTRATION'S STANCE REGARDING THE DEFENSE COOPERATION
AGREEMENT (DCA) THAN THEY HAD BEEN LATE LAST WEEK
(REFTELS). BOTH WERE PLEASED AND REASSURED BY AMBASSADOR
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PAGE 02 STATE 015794

ESENBEL'S REPORT OF HIS (FRIDAY, JAN 21) MEETING WITH
SECRETARY VANCE.

2. ELEKDAG WENT ON TO SHED SOME INTERESTING LIGHT IN
GOT RELATIONS WITH TURKISH-CYPRIOT LEADER RAUF DENKTASH.
HE PREFACED THIS BY URGING THAT THE NEW US ADMINISTRATION
NOT REPEAT NOT IN DAYS AHEAD THE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON

THE DCA TO PROGRESS IN THE CYPRUS SITUATION, AND HE ONCE MORE EMPHASIZED THE DOMESTIC TURKISH POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH WILL INEVITABLY ENSUE HERE FROM A LINKAGE OF THIS KIND. I REPEATED THAT AS A PRACTICAL MATTER THERE WAS A LINKAGE, AND AT THE SAME TIME AGAIN EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT TURKEY COULD FIND A WAY TO SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY AND ARGUE THIS WAS NOT TIED TO US PRESSURE BUT PURSUANT TO INDEPENDENT TURKISH NATIONAL INTERESTS.

3. ELEKDAG THEN REPEATED WHAT HE SAID TO ME LAST WEEK, I.E., THAT GOT DID WISH TO SEE SOME TURKISH FLEXIBILITY IN THE CYPRUS SITUATION. HE ALSO REPEATED THAT GOT HAD BEEN "STRONGLY URGING" DENKTASH TO BE AS FLEXIBLE AS HE POSSIBLY COULD. "BUT," I SAID THAT HE SEEMED TO BE LESS OF A PROBLEM LATELY, NOTING THAT THE GOT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING, IN SQUELCHING DENKTASH'S TALK OF UNILATERAL DECLARATION INDEPENDENCE (UDI). "YES", RESPONDED ELEKDAG, "BUT IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW MANY TELEPHONE CALLS AND BITTER CONVERSATIONS THAT TOOK*"

4. CONTINUING ON THE SUBJECT OF UDI, ELEKDAG SAID THE PROBLEM WAS NOT ONLY THAT TURKEY HAD A WEAK GOVERNMENT BUT ALSO THAT CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (ERBAKAN MINISTERS) HAD OPENLY ENCOURAGED DENKTASH'S UDI ASPIRATIONS. DID THIS MEAN, I ASKED, THAT I HAD BEEN WRONG IN THINKING THAT UDI WAS DEAD FOR THE TIME BEING. ELEKDAG'S RESPONSE WAS "NO, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 015794

IT IS COMPLETELY DEAD FOR THE TIME BEING". I ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN, HOWEVER, IF DENKTASH PRESENTED THE GOT WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI AND ONE DAY WITHOUT WARNING SUDDENLY DECLARED UDI. WOULDN'T IT BE DIFFICULT AT THAT POINT FOR THE GOT TO REPUDIATE WHAT DENKTASH HAD DONE? ELEKDAG'S RESPONSE WAS "DON'T WORRY, DENKTASH WOULDN'T DO IT, AND IF HE DID, WE'D KILL IT AND HE WOULD BE FINISHED IN TURKISH CYPRIOT POLITICS". UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ADDED, THE ONLY TIME DENKTASH COULD GET AWAY WITH UDI WOULD BE IN AN AGITATED SITUATION, SUCH AS IMMEDIATELY AFTER AN ADVERSE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE AGAINST THE DCA. UNDER THAT TYPE OF CIRCUMSTANCE, SAID ELEKDAG, DENKTASH COULD PROBABLY MAKE DECLARATION OF UDI STICK, REGARDLESS OF WHAT ANKARA WANTED. (WHILE THIS REMARK WAS NOT THE MOST SUBTLE TACTIC I HAVE ENCOUNTERED HERE, IT COULD WELL BE ACCURATE).

5. WHEN I SAID I WAS PLEASED TO HEAR HIM REPEAT THAT THE GOT WAS URGING DENKTASH TO BE AS FLEXIBLE

AS HE COULD IN THE DAYS AHEAD, ELEKDAG AGAIN EMPHASIZED
THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING MAKARIOS TO DEMAND THE
RETURN OF SPECIFICALLY DELINEATED TERRITORIES. THIS
WAS THE KIND OF OPENER, ELEKDAG EMPHASIZED TO ME AGAIN
AS HE HAD IN OUR LAST MEETING, THAT WAS NEEDED TO GET
A BONA FIDE NEGOTIATION UNDERWAY. DENKTASH COULD NOT
REPEAT NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO OFFER UP TERRITORY
AND HE COLD NOT REPEAT NOT TALK IN TERMS OF
PERCENTAGES, BUT THE TURKS COULD BEGIN TO NEGOTIATE
ON THE BASIS OF A SPECIFIC REQUEST OF THIS KIND.
MACOMBER UNQUOTE VANCE

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